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Ask your doctor all about Ayer's non-alcoholic Sarsaparilla. Then you will know whether you want it or not.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

NON-ALCOHOLIC

Want a nerve tonic? - Ask your doctor
 Want a blood purifier? - Ask your doctor
 Want a strong alternative? - Ask your doctor
 Want a family medicine? - Ask your doctor
 Want it without alcohol? - Ask your doctor
 Want Ayer's Sarsaparilla? - Ask your doctor

Free from Alcohol

J. C. AYER CO., Manufacturing Chemists, Lowell, Mass.

INSURANCE

FIRE LIFE ACCIDENT STEAM BOILER
 PLATE GLASS LIABILITY SURETY
 BURGLARY PHYSICIAN'S DEFENSE
 SPRINKLER LEAKAGE FLY WHEEL

INSURANCE

at lowest rates in the best companies

EDWARD J. HALL

doing business as

JOHN V. HALL & SON

FRUITS, LEMONS

ORANGES

—AND—

GRAPES

Also best line of Christmas Groceries to be had at reasonable prices.

Cakes, Pies and Bakery Goods

For Sunday Dinner.

I. E. GIBSON CO.

NEW YORK AND BOSTON
 SHOE REPAIRING COMPANY

113 NORTH STREET NEXT TO CORBETT & GREENAWALD'S

Highest grade of work done at most reasonable prices.

American and European Plan.

THE BERKSHIRE

Corner Bank and Sumner Streets, North Adams, Mass.

One Block from the Depot, Opposite the City Hall

New Up-to-Date Commercial Hotel

Telephone and Electric Lights in Every Room

American Plan \$2 a Day Upwards

European Plan 75c, \$1 and \$1.50

Special Rates by the Week

First Class Livery

W. R. CHILDS, Prop.

TRY OUR 50 CENT DINNER

S. BOLTON'S SONS'

Home Brewed Ale

IS NOW ON SALE IN YOUR TOWN

In Bottles by E. J. Morrissey

On Draught at Putnam House & L. Bergeron's

S. BOLTON'S SONS - TROY

When in North Adams

GET YOUR

Lunch or Regular Dinner

AT GALE'S

90 Main Street. Directly opp. 5 and 10c Store

THE EVENING BANNER

Published every day except Sundays and Holidays.

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Per year \$3.00
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FRANK E. HOWE, Editor and Publisher

A Vacation in Porto Rico

The American schools in Porto Rico are the best things in the island. They are taught by earnest, ambitious American girls who are doing more to uplift the people of Porto Rico than all the government, business and churches in the island. The boys and girls who attend these schools are a bright faced and lively lot. They are learning the English language rapidly and are growing up to be clean and progressive instead of dirty and lazy like their fathers and mothers. To say that he is clean is the greatest compliment that can be paid by an American to a Porto Rican.

The morals of the country in the past have been something awful to us of New England birth and training. In 1899 when the official census was taken there were listed over 148,000 illegitimate children in a population of less than one million. Less than \$5,000 people in the entire population were married though practically every woman on the island between the ages of 16 and 40 was bearing children. Yet the situation was not quite as bad as these figures would indicate.

Under the Spanish rule the church income was derived to a considerable extent from fees charged for marriages. Each marriage under this system cost about \$16 and this sum was greater than the poorer classes could by any possibility pay. There was a method by which a cheaper wedding could be obtained, but to get it the parties were publicly advertised as paupers and the consequence was that marriages were made by agreement instead of by church or civil rite. Of course this lax system was destructive to public morals.

About the worst sights in the island are the cemeteries. They are mostly crowded little yards about as repulsive as could well be imagined. Under the Spanish rule it was customary to rent a grave for a deceased relative and then when the family ceased to pay the annual rent the bones were dug up and thrown into a corner of the cemetery to bleach in the tropical sunshine. At San Juan when the Americans came they found in one corner of the public cemetery the bones of perhaps fifty thousand people. These bones were buried in one big vault and this sort of thing is no longer permitted in the island.

One care of the government in the island ought to be to protect the people from certain American business sharks who are trying to get rich quickly by preying on a people unaccustomed to modern American business methods. One American house has sold to the gullest natives some 20,000 sewing machines, mostly on the installment plan and is now busy collecting the installments. I have little doubt that these machines were sold at extravagant prices and that few of them were really needed by the people who were talked into buying them. Indeed the quantity of clothes worn in Porto Rico outside of the cities does not indicate any very crying need for sewing machines anyway. I am told that there are native huts in the country in which the only furniture is a table and a sewing machine.

The newspapers of Porto Rico are a pretty poor lot. In and around San Juan are not less than 60,000 of the most prosperous and intelligent people on the island, but there is not a newspaper there as good as the Banner and those published in other towns are even poorer. They are of course all printed in Spanish except one San Juan paper has one page in English.

My advice to anybody looking for a business opening would be to keep away from Porto Rico. It is an interesting place to visit, but there are a hundred business chances in the states to every one there and few Americans like to live there. Most of them on the island are trying to make money enough to get back to the United States again. This is not true of all. Some few find the climate delightful and say they do not wish to come back.

A man with money and skill enough to build, equip and run a first class American hotel in San Juan could get rich and there is no doubt money to be made in coffee, sugar, pineapples and grape fruit, but in any of these lines a newcomer is greatly handicapped by lack of experience and must put in several years learning what not to do as well as what he ought and can accomplish.

The American troops in the island consist mostly of several companies of native Porto Ricans with American officers and well drilled and apparently effective. There is an insular system of uniformed police which seems to keep the peace as well as the police force of American cities.

There are no sewers in the island except in the three largest cities so

The Cause of Many Sudden Deaths.

There is a disease prevailing in this country most dangerous because so deep-seated and so insidious. Many sudden deaths are caused by it—heart disease, pneumonia, heart failure or apoplexy are often the result of kidney disease. If kidney trouble is allowed to advance the kidney-poisoned blood will attack the vital organs, causing catarrh of the bladder, or the kidneys themselves break down and waste away cell by cell. Bladder troubles almost always result from a derangement of the kidneys and a cure is obtained quickest by a proper treatment of the kidneys. If you are feeling badly you can make no mistake by taking Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy. It corrects inability to hold urine and scalding pain in passing it, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to go often through the day, and to get up many times during the night. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. Swamp-Root is pleasant to take and is sold by all druggists in fifty-cent and one dollar size bottles. You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful new discovery and a book that tells all about it, both sent free by mail. Address, Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. When writing mention reading this generous offer in this paper. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

that conditions of sanitation can be better imagined than described especially in the larger villages. In spite of this the general health of the people is better than in most tropical countries and far better than in the West Indies. Yellow fever is practically unknown, small-pox is not serious and epidemic diseases are rare. The worst disease on the island is syphilis which is common. It is said that over one third of the native people are affected by it and some estimate the percentage much higher. To this and the disease called elephantiasis is due the many cripples and repulsive looking invalids that are common all over the island.

Frank E. Howe.

This is Worth Remembering.

Whenever you have a cough or cold, just remember that Foley's Kidney & Bladder Cure will cure it. Do not risk your health by taking any but the genuine. It is in a yellow package. Quinlan's Pharmacy.

JOHN NASH

COTTAGE \$1100

7 rooms, three minutes from depot Bennington; water and sewer connected; extra building lot worth \$500. Terms easy.

TWO FAMILY \$2400

Rents for \$11 per side, modern house with toilet and bath on each side, near by new house in good repair, located on West Main street; \$1200 can remain on place.

SMALL CHICKEN FARM \$1050

Located 10 minutes walk from Coop's mill, good 8 room house painted white; 2 1/2 acres of land, cuts 4 tons of hay; barn for cow and a horse; wagon shed, hen house, several apple, pear, plum and cherry trees, currants etc.

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MORSE'S

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All jobs, large or small carefully looked after at a trial. We thank you for the past year's patronage.

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

represented by

JOHN B. HARTE, Local Treasurer

Bennington, Vt.

G. H. Thompson, M. D., C.M.

PRACTICE LIMITED TO

The Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat

18 Ashland St., No. Adams

TELEPHONE CONNECTION.

WOMAN'S BACKACHE



The back is the mainspring of woman's organism. It quickly calls attention to trouble by aching. It tells, with other symptoms, such as nervousness, headache, pains in the loins, weight in the lower part of the body, that a woman's feminine organism needs immediate attention. In such cases the one sure remedy which speedily removes the cause, and restores the feminine organism to a healthy, normal condition is

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

Mrs. Will Young, of 6 Columbia Ave., Rockland, Me., says:

"I was troubled for a long time with dreadful backaches and a pain in my side, and was miserable in every way. I doctored until I was discouraged and thought I would never get well. I read what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound had done for others and decided to try it, after taking three bottles I can truly say that I never felt so well in my life."

Mrs. Augustus Lyon, of East Earl, Pa., writes to Mrs. Pinkham:

"I had very severe backaches, and pressing-down pains. I could not sleep, and had no appetite. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured me and made me feel like a new woman."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration.

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ILLUSTRATED SONGS

and the finest

MOVING PICTURES

A nice place for ladies and children.

Pictures Changed 3 Times a Week

Monday Wednesday and Friday.

Continuous Performance

10 p. m. to 5 p. m. 7:30 p. m. to 10:30 p. m.

ADMISSION TO ALL PARTS OF THE HOUSE.

ADULTS 10c, CHILDREN 5c

Come and enjoy yourselves. It's certainly a treat.

NEW RESTAURANT

On Saturday the restaurant in the new Hawks building on North street which has been closed for some time will be re-opened under a new proprietor, Leon J. Boyd, who has had considerable experience in the business, and who intends to maintain a thoroughly up-to-date restaurant and lunch room. Warm meals will be served at all hours.

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TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND MANDOLIN

Engagements solicited for Goldsmith's Orchestra.

600 Main St., Bennington, Vt.

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Eye, ear, nose and throat. Glasses properly fitted. Eye and ear surgeon to the city hospital. Formerly clinical assistant at the Central London Eye Hospital, also assistant surgeon at New York Eye and Ear Hospital.

Dowlin Block North Adams

Wm. T. Lawrence

"The Violin Teacher."

Mr. Lawrence announces this season, that he will give a hour private lesson and 2 hours ensemble playing, thereby giving three hours instruction for the price of a single lesson.

Mr. Lawrence is a most successful instructor, having 64 pupils, therefore being obliged to resign as leader of orchestra at Hand's Opera House (Troy), a position he successfully filled for 12 years; also first violinist of Doring's celebrated orchestra, in order to devote all his time to teaching. For terms address

Wm. T. Lawrence - 866 Sixth Ave., TROY N. Y.

SOUTH SHAFTSBURY

Miss Millie Galusha spent Sunday at home.

Mrs. Solomon is spending a few days in Hoosick Falls.

Miss Tula Bronson has been out riding and is gaining.

Miss Helen Knapp came home from Pittsfield on Saturday.

Miss Dorothy Mattison has returned from her visit in Troy.

Mrs. D. Baldwin was out on Sunday after her severe attack of tonsillitis.

Eugene Deitz and son will begin repairing F. Eddy's residence this week.

The Mattison-Shuttleworth wedding announcement cards have been received.

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The birthday party in honor of Miss Anna Pleasant 18th anniversary, was held to be deferred on account of the death of her aunt, Mrs. Knapp.

The sickness in the Oscar Cross family is sad both father and mother afflicted. At last accounts they had not been able to be removed to their own home.

Arthur Knapp has rented what is known as the "school farm" in Arlington and is getting ready to move. He will be delayed a few days owing to the death of his mother.

On Sunday next will occur the last quarterly communion of his conference year. There will also be a reception of members who have finished their probationary season.

Mrs. Edwin Bronson is able to sit up. Her son with trouble with her throat yet. Her son's wife, Mrs. George Bronson has been caring for her and her house since the nurse and her daughter went away.

Mrs. F. E. Rice gave a tea party Friday afternoon to a few of her friends, Mrs. A. A. Collins, Mrs. Edward Millington, Mrs. John Bradish, Mrs. Newman Hawkins, Mrs. Aurilla Galusha and was very much enjoyed by all especially the bountiful repast followed by ice cream.

Clarence J. Ferguson of Burlington spoke in the M. E. church on Sunday morning in the interest of the Anti-Saloon League. Subject of address "The Old Spavined Steed" or "The Four Year Old Colt." Mr. Ferguson accompanied Rev. C. S. Agan to his charge at Shaftsbury in the afternoon.

On Saturday evening there will be a meeting of Sunday school officers and teachers to submit ideas and plans for better work in our Sunday school, which we are glad to state is steadily increasing in interest and in numbers. The superintendent, S. E. Hawkins, and his assistant, Harry Mirfield, are greatly interested in the work of increase in numbers and work.

Owing to the special services conducted by Mr. Emillion the meeting of the W. F. M. society was abandoned. The second week in April will occur the next regular meeting. There will be added interest to look forward to in the coming session as Mrs. Merrill Hitchcock and Mrs. Walter White will be with us. Mrs. Hitchcock has an interesting paper to read. The meeting will be held in the church so there will be room for all interested in missions to enjoy. Keep this in mind, April 8th.

Mrs. Mary Cone Knapp died about 8 o'clock on Saturday morning after a long and painful illness. She has been a patient sufferer, was ready and willing to go when the last call should come. The deceased was 58 years old. She leaves a husband, two sons, Myron and Arthur, also four daughters, Mrs. Lillian Belrose of Woodford, Mrs. Nora Starks, Mrs. Mary Pleasant of Shaftsbury and Miss Helen Knapp of Pittsfield, Mass. The funeral was held at the church about half past 2 o'clock after the house service, Rev. C. S. Agan officiating. Mrs. Knapp was a member of this church, but for a long time has not been able to go from her home. The burial was in the village cemetery. Besides her immediate family are survived by her two brothers Hugh and David Cone, three sisters Mrs. Henry Pleasant, Mrs. Frank Becker and Mrs. David Bartlett.

Clifford Kline and H. A. Davis were in the village Sunday and called on friends.

Mrs. Spencer, mother of Mrs. F. M. Hawkins is seriously ill with heart trouble.

Mr. Humphrey has rented Warren Marshall's residence and moved onto the place.

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